

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**LEVERS : Scales**

A scale is a lever. You probably have scales around the house and they are used in everyday life. They are used to find the weight of objects. If you have seen scales at the doctors office, they use a counterweight to figure out how much you weigh. Weighing scales were used during 400 B.C. and can also be seen in pirate movies where they were used to measure the amount of gold or rubies.

**Testing a Scale**

After you have made your scale, your first task is to balance it. Make sure that your fulcrum point is exactly in the middle of the arms. Due to some imperfections in the blocks and from being used, the scale might tip to one side. If it does, add the small "correction weights" to center the scale. After you have it centered and balanced, now it's time to start testing.

Using the coins provided, try to find the weight of the blocks. *HINT: try to keep the blocks centered in the basket.*

	Number of Coins		
Number of Blocks	Pennies	Nickels	Dimes
1			
4			
6			
8			

Now try moving the fulcrum point two holes over towards the side of the blocks and record your data.

	Number of Coins		
Number of Blocks	Pennies	Nickels	Dimes
1			
4			
6			
8			

What did you discover when the fulcrum point was moved?

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